September 18

Isaiah 53:3-6

3 He is despised and rejected of men; a man of sorrows, and acquainted with grief: and we hid as it were our faces from him; he was despised, and we esteemed him not.
4 Surely he hath borne our griefs, and carried our sorrows: yet we did esteem him stricken,

smitten of God, and afflicted.
5 But he was wounded for our transgressions, he was bruised for our iniquities: the chastisement of our peace was upon him; and with his stripes we are healed.
6 All we like sheep have gone astray;

we have turned every one to his own way; and the LORD hath laid on him the iniquity of us all.

This speaks of Messiah who is the Lord Jesus. Despite the glowing images people use to represent him, it is not the way Scripture depicts the Christ.

He was despised and rejected. He carried the sorrows of all humankind and was fully acquainted with grief. Whatever his

physical appearance was or whatever emotions his presence evoked, it, according to Scripture, wasn't automatic favor or instant attraction. Instead, it caused people to avoid so much as looking at him. Something about him was so off-putting, whether physically, and/or spiritually, that

people thought of him as being beaten down and made miserable by God.

Though quite commonly misused, the words, “with his stripes we are healed” does not promote physical healing.

It has nothing

to do with
making anyone
healthy or well.
It only has to do
with the spiritual
healing from the
sickness
of sin.

So, what has Jesus done for humankind?:

- carried our griefs

and took on
our sorrows

- allowed himself to be wounded for our transgressions and bruised for our iniquities

- suffered punishment so we would not have to be eternally tormented— so we could have eternal

“peace”

- endured physical beatings of “stripes” for our spiritual healing
- handled the iniquity of those who accept his sacrifice

ONE A DAY
SCRIPTURE
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PRAYER